

upon to take clients who can no longer be stabilized within the existing network of community hospitals. Yet those community hospitals, under current EMTALA law, get reimbursed (rightfully) for services under Medicaid. The IMD's however, cannot access Medicaid reimbursement for that same service and hence a financial inequity and burden is placed on these non-public IMD's. Your proposed draft legislation, which I have had the opportunity to review, alleviates that unfairness and will provide some financial support for Maine's 2 IMD hospitals.

I want to offer you my support in helping pass this bill. Please let me know if there is something I can do or information I can provide that would be helpful to get this bill passed.

Sincerely,

SABRA C. BURDICK,
Acting Commissioner.

SPRING HARBOR HOSPITAL, MAINE'S
COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH
NETWORK,

South Portland, ME, August 26, 2003.

Hon. OLYMPIA J. SNOWE,
*U.S. Senate, Russell Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR SENATOR SNOWE: On behalf of both Spring Harbor Hospital in Maine and the National Association for Psychiatric Healthcare Systems, I would like to thank you for supporting legislation to enable freestanding private psychiatric hospitals in the US to receive payment for the emergency stabilization services they provide each year to thousands of Medicaid-eligible adult clients under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA).

As you know, it is becoming increasingly difficult for freestanding private psychiatric facilities to absorb the cost of treating Medicaid-eligible adults between the ages of 21 and 64 who are referred to them for emergency stabilization under EMTALA. At Spring Harbor alone, the cost of serving this population last year was close to \$7 million.

Faced with both diminishing reimbursement streams and a concurrent rise in demand for inpatient stabilization services from overflowing emergency rooms across the country, private freestanding psychiatric facilities are quite literally caught between a rock and a hard place. In Maine and in many other places, freestanding private psychiatric hospitals are protecting their financial health by offering fewer and fewer adult psychiatric services in the inpatient setting. This tactic simply skirts the issue and creates a further void of services for individuals with acute mental illness, precisely at a time when it is widely accepted that the availability of mental health services in this country is substandard.

When all is said and done, these financial figures pale in comparison to the ultimate cost to our society when these adults fail to receive the treatment they deserve. It has been estimated that the lifetime cost of providing for an individual with an untreated serious mental illness is \$10 million. Though this figure includes the financial impact of lost work days and the cost of providing Social Security disability benefits, it does not even begin to speak to the emotional toll of mental illness on friends or the scars mental illness can have on loved ones for generations to come. If we could quantify these numbers adequately, I am certain that I would not need to be writing to you today.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the receptiveness of your office and that of Senator Collins to issues concerning the plight of the one in four adults and one in ten children in the US who will experience a mental illness this year. It is high time that the issues surrounding this illness were ad-

ressed with understanding, compassion, and a concern for our country's long-term mental health. I am both pleased and proud that the Maine congressional delegation is leading the way on these critical issues.

Best regards,

DENNIS P. KING,
*Chief Executive Officer/President, Natl.
Assoc. of Psychiatric Healthcare Systems.*

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 248—EX- PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE CONCERNING THE INDI- VIDUAL INDIAN MONEY AC- COUNT TRUST FUND LAWSUIT

Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. INOUE, Mr. DOMENICI, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs:

S. RES. 248

Whereas, in exchange for ceding hundreds of millions of acres of land and other valuable consideration by Indian tribes, the United States was obligated to protect Indian funds and resources;

Whereas, since the 19th century, the United States has held Indian funds and resources in trust for the benefit of Indians;

Whereas the Senate reaffirms that in continuing to hold and manage Indian funds and resources for the benefit of the Indians, the United States should act in accordance with the highest fiduciary standards;

Whereas in 1996, a class action was brought against the United States seeking a historical accounting of balances of individual Indian money accounts;

Whereas after 8 years of litigation and the expenditure of hundreds of millions of dollars in Federal funds, the Senate believes that continued litigation will not provide significant benefits to, or serve the interests of, the members of the class; and

Whereas, subsequent to the filing of the class action, the Indians and the United States have tried without success to reach settlement of the Indian claims: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SENSE OF THE SENATE.

It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the interests of Indians and the United States would best be served by a voluntary alternative claims resolution process that will lead to a full, fair, and final settlement of potential individual Indian money account claims; and

(2) legislation is necessary to establish a voluntary alternative claims resolution process and achieve a full, fair, and final settlement of potential individual Indian money account claims.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 1890. Mr. CAMPBELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 521, to amend the Act of August 9, 1955, to extend the terms of leases of certain restricted Indian land, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1890. Mr. CAMPBELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed

by him to the bill S. 521, to amend the Act of August 9, 1955, to extend the terms of leases of certain restricted Indian land, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 6 and insert the following:

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF LEASES OF RE- STRICTED LAND FOR TERMS OF 99 YEARS.

The first section of the Act of August 9, 1955 (25 U.S.C. 415) (as amended by section 3), is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) AUTHORIZATION OF LEASES OF TRIBALLY OWNED RESTRICTED LAND FOR TERMS OF 99 YEARS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), any restricted Indian land that is owned by an Indian tribe may be leased by the tribal owner, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, for a term of not longer than 99 years, for—

“(A) public, religious, educational, recreational, residential, or business purposes; and

“(B) any other purpose stated in subsection (a), unless the Secretary determines that the principal purpose of the lease is for—

“(i) exploration, development, or extraction of a mineral resource; or

“(ii) storage of materials listed as high level radioactive waste (as defined in section 2 of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101)).

“(2) APPROVAL BY THE SECRETARY.—

“(A) TIMING.—The Secretary shall approve or disapprove a lease described in subsection (a) or an amendment to such a lease not later than the date that is 180 days after the date on which an application for approval of the lease or lease amendment is submitted to the Secretary.

“(B) FAILURE TO ACT.—If the Secretary fails to take action on an application for approval of a lease or lease amendment by the date specified in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall be deemed to have approved the lease.”.

SEC. 7. BINDING ARBITRATION.

Section 2(c) of Public Law 89-715 (25 U.S.C. 416a(c)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence—

(A) by inserting “(including a sublease, substitute lease, or master lease)” after “Any lease”; and

(B) by inserting “, or any contract affecting land within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community,” after “Reservation”; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking “entered into pursuant to such Acts”.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Wednesday, October 22, 2003, at 10 a.m. in Room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Mr. David W. Anderson to be the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior; to be followed immediately by a business meeting to consider pending committee business.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at 224-2251.